

**CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Monday, June 25, 2007**  
**The Center of Clayton – Meeting Room A**

**The following members were present:**

Alex Berger	Judy Goodman
Mimi Deem	Omri Praiss
Deb Dubin	Rich Yawitz
Lori Elliott	

**Excused/Absent**

Dick Hyde  
Jill Indovino

**Also Present:**

Patty DeForrest, Director of Parks and Recreation

**Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes from the May 21 meeting were approved pending one correction.

**Director's Report**

The sale of non-resident passes has been a huge success so far. We have made \$121,000 since we started selling these passes which surpasses our budgeted projection of \$106,000. The Tennis Center is on budget. The sale of Platinum passes has also been successful. The only membership fee increase being proposed for 2008 is the membership fees for The Center of Clayton. This is a fee increase that was proposed to the CRSWC finance committee. It is about a 3% increase with some exceptions. There is no fee increase proposed for family resident memberships. This is a fee that is at the place we want them to be. The rest are going up about 3%. We proposed that we establish a corporate rate for The Center of Clayton, much in line with what we do at all of our outdoor facilities. Right now the outdoor facilities have 3-tiered memberships, which are resident, non-resident and corporate fees. A letter has been drafted for our members noting that we are increasing our fees in October, and will be mailed out in the next few weeks. A 3% to 13 % increase is very minimal because our rates have gone up 36% over the last 4 years. We change our program fees on an ongoing basis. If instructor fees and supply fees go up we then increase those fees. The Center membership fees have not gone up in 4 years. The increases are very justified

The Center has 3 different funds, one is the operating fund which is where the day to day costs and expenses come out of and the revenue goes into. We also have an equipment replacement fund which primarily pays for fitness equipment. The third fund is the capital fund which the city and school district contributing money to in order to build fund balances. They each contribute \$100,000 every year. We pay capital costs out of this funds.

A capital project that will be taking place this summer at The Center of Clayton Aquatic Center is replacement of all of the overhead lighting. The light is below what we should have in there and is also a huge expense from replacement costs for the existing system. In addition, a new UV light system will be installed for all three Center pools, and we will resurface of the competition pool.

We will look into putting more shade in at the Shaw Park Aquatic Center. Next year we will extend shade at the concession area. Fans may be added to the Atlantic and Pacific Rooms as well. Ms. Dubin commented on the fact that many of the pool users that she knows are pleased with the changes that have been made at the concession stand. They are pleased because they get free cups of water and that the friendliness and cleanliness have greatly improved. There are still a few issues such as bugs and ants. Ms. Dubin will gather more information from these individuals and then send an email report to the Commission so everyone can see the report prior to the next meeting. Mr. Berger stated that the designated smoking area was moved to the south side of the Shaw Park Aquatic Center so it is no longer near concessions or the children's pool.

Online registration will become free in July.

The Jazz Festival and Taste of Clayton went very well. As a result of the work done ahead of time, a couple of weeks later the fields are in good shape. It was due to good use of the consultant. About 8,000 people came to the Jazz Festival's evening events. Approximately, 36,000 people attended Taste of Clayton which is about as busy as we have ever been. It was a challenge to switch things around but it did happen. We have Parties in the Park and Musical Nights left until September.

At the July meeting we will review the preliminary Hanley House Historic Structures report. The Ice Rink Task Force is getting close to wrapping things up. They have had some reports from the consultants. We are hoping at the July 12 meeting the committee will make a recommendation to the board. Mr. Berger noted that what is interesting is the concept brought forward by the consultant changes the footprint and makes this a venue. It would have an entrance way, food services, and retail services within the ice rink and are all part of the proposal. The issue about a roofing mechanism really has not been dealt with. It is part of each of the 2 or 3 alternatives we have seen. There is enthusiasm for food service which would attach itself to the rink and the pool. One suggestion is the construction of a building at the west side of the green space that separates the pool from the ice rink. When the report is presented it will likely come with the price tag not less than 2 million dollars but no more than 5 million dollars. There will likely be some type of roof on the ice rink. There is space for skating and defined times for ice hockey times. Ice Hockey will have a great deal of time for financial reasons.

The mulch pile project is moving along. The treatment that is being proposed is an environmental treatment which is a series of bioswails and also along with that landscaping that will be native plant orientated. The intention is to create a beautiful landscape sculpture and then hidden behind it will be the bioswails to treat the run off. It is a very neat concept. This would be very cutting edge and a great opportunity for education. A group called Intuition and Logic is working on this project and they have done some of these in the past. Our plan is to start this project at the end of the summer. Phase 1 is to put in the landscaping, phase 2 would be construction of the bioswales, and phase 3 would be the back of the mulch pile which will front the centennial greenway. This leads us into the next thing which is that we met last Friday with Centennial Greenway about their project and we are still in phase 1 of that project. This is the spoke of Olive Boulevard that goes to Shaw Park. They are completing the design right now. They met with Ms. DeForrest and the school district about any project along the way that would impact us. It will basically come along the I-170 corridor right past Gay Field and connect to Shaw Park at the southwest end. Funding from existing county taxes will pay for the design. Their biggest challenges are getting all of the agreements in place. It goes for a brief period through Ladue and they have not been able to meet an agreement with them. From now until installation it will take about 2 years. This will be a biking, running and walking trail. This greenway will connect all the way to the Katy Trail.

### **Old Business/New Business**

Ms. Dubin mentioned that it would be a good idea to plan to have a retreat in September or October to welcome new members to help them get acquainted to the Commission. The August Commission meeting will be held at the Hanley House. The PTO will do a presentation at that meeting. Refreshments will be served and the historic structures report will also be presented. The Tennis Center will be resurfaced in August and will not affect when the high school plays in the fall. Ms. Eiserle and Ms. Siering will be setting up a dog park committee within the next month. The Alice Acock statue will be put in at the end of the July and the formal dedication will take place in September.

Respectfully Submitted By,  
Denise Ucinski

